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Provident Institution for Savings, should they erect a new building, to apply to the city government for leave to extend their south wall some five feet over the burying-ground, to be supported upon arches,

Mr. WINTHROP moved a reconsideration of the vote ; whereupon a discussion ensued, and the views of several of the members having been expressed, and the object intended by the motion to reconsider having been attained, it was withdrawn by the mover.

WILLIAM BRIGHAM, Esq., of Boston, *vice* Hon. James C. Merrill, deceased, and Hon. ABBOTT LAWRENCE, of Boston, *vice* Hon. Simon Greenleaf, deceased, were respectively elected Resident Members, — Messrs. WORCESTER and LIVERMORE, Scrutinizing Committee.

Present — The President, Adams, Appleton, Budington, Davis, Deane, Eliot, Felt, R. Frothingham, Jr., N. L. Frothingham, F. C. Gray, J. C. Gray, Jenks, Livermore, Lunt, Paige, Quincy, Robbins, Shattuck, Shurtleff, Sibley, Ticknor, Webb, Wheatland, White, Willard, Winthrop, Worcester, and Young.

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#### MONTHLY MEETING, JANUARY, 1854.

Thursday, Jan. 12, 1854, 12 M. The Society held their stated meeting, — the President in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read by Dr. NATHANIEL B. SHURTLEFF, who was appointed Secretary *pro tem.*, in the absence of the Recording Secretary.

The Librarian communicated donations from Messrs.

Samuel G. Drake, James Lenox, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanics' Association, and from Messrs. Ames and Winthrop, of the Society.

The Corresponding Secretary communicated letters from Hon. Abbott Lawrence and William Brigham, Esq., accepting their election as Resident Members.

Mr. TICKNOR, from the Committee appointed at January meeting, 1851, on the subject of larger accommodations for the Society, and whose powers were enlarged at December meeting, 1853, reported verbally that such accommodations would probably be obtained for the Society and also for the Provident Institution for Savings, in some other than the present situation, and that the subject was now before a committee of that Institution for action thereupon.

Messrs. LIVERMORE and BRIGHAM were appointed a committee with full power to treat with Messrs. Ames and Shattuck, of this Society, respecting exchanges of duplicate Acts, Resolves, and Journals of the Province and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, so as to perfect the Society's Collections.

Dr. WEBB communicated to the Society the information that he had obtained from John Carter Brown, Esq., of Providence, Rhode Island, the loan of a rare tract, entitled "Clarke's Ill News from New England," for the use of the Society. Whereupon,

*Voted*, That the tract be referred to the Publishing Committee, with authority to have the same copied, and to draw upon the Treasurer of the Society for the expense thereof.\*

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\* This tract was reprinted in 4 Collections, II. 1-113. — Eds.

Mr. SIBLEY read a letter from Henry Dunster, father of the President, written to the latter, dated "Balehault, this 20th of March, 1640"; also, a letter from Rev. Mr. Samuel Sewall, of Burlington, under date of December last, touching the "Balehault" letter. Whereupon,

*Voted*, That Mr. Sibley be requested to procure, if possible, copies of these two letters; also, of other letters formerly the property of President Dunster, for the use of the Publishing Committee.\*

Mr. SHATTUCK exhibited two manuscript volumes in his possession, written by Mr. David Hall.

On motion of Mr. WINTHROP,

*Voted*, That Messrs. Adams, Appleton, Lawrence, Quincy, and Winthrop be a committee to memorialize the Congress of the United States, in behalf of the Massachusetts Historical Society, in favor of an appropriation for defraying the expenses of procuring from the State Paper Office or other public offices in England, copies of all the documents, correspondence, and records relating to the history of our country.

The President communicated a copy of a letter written by Emanuel Downing to James Usher, Archbishop of Armagh, bearing date "24 October, 1620," which was referred to the Publishing Committee.†

On the request of Mr. Lunt for the loan of a manuscript copy of the records of the First Church in Plymouth, being the same copy that was made out and presented to the Society by that gentleman,

*Voted*, That the request be granted.

*Voted*, That Mr. Ames be empowered to take charge of the binding of several loose documents relating to the early legislation of Massachusetts, and to draw upon the Treasurer for the money to defray the expense.

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\* See the "Dunster Papers," in 4 Collections, II. 190-198. — Eds.

† Ibid., II. 120, 121. — Eds.

Mr. ROBBINS communicated the epitaph of Captain John Smith, as copied from the original in St. Sepulchre's, London.\*

Present — The President, Adams, Ames, Appleton, Blagden, Bowen, Brigham, Ellis, Felt, N. L. Frothingham, R. Frothingham, Jr., Livermore, Lunt, Paige, Quincy, Robbins, Shattuck, Shurtleff, Sibley, Ticknor, Webb, Winthrop, and Young.

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#### MONTHLY MEETING.

Thursday, Feb. 12, 1854, 12 M. The Society held their stated meeting, — the President in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read.

The Librarian communicated donations from Messrs. James I. Wood, Edwin M. Stone, Mr. Norton, of the "Literary Gazette," George W. Burnap, Rev. Dr. Henry, John W. Forney, Clerk of the House of Representatives in Congress, the Mayor of the City of Boston, the State of New York, and from Messrs. Sibley and Winthrop, of the Society; also, a deposit by the town of Medway, pursuant to a request of the Society at the last October meeting, of the Laws of Massachusetts, 1775–1778.

The Committee on enlarged accommodations reported by Mr. Ticknor that the subject-matter was still in progress.

The President communicated a letter from Thomas Doney, Julius Gollmann, Thomas Evans, and R. King,

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\* For this epitaph, see Proceedings for January, 1867, pp. 455, 456. — EDS.

proprietors of the engraving entitled "Distinguished Americans," accompanying a copy of the engraving as a present to the Society. The letter states that the scene represented is that of "a meeting of the Historical Society of the State of New York," and that the engraving "embraces portraits of fifty distinguished personages, members of the Society, . . . and that forty-seven of these portraits are engraved from paintings from life," &c.\*

Mr. AMES, from the First Section, made some instructive remarks upon the importance of preserving the old Legislative Journals, as a valuable portion of the history of the Commonwealth.

The President communicated the following papers, which were by vote referred to the Publishing Committee, viz. : —

1. Instructions from O. Cromwell to Major Robert Sedgwick, commander of the "Black Raven," &c., Feb. 8, 1653.
2. Instructions from O. Cromwell to Captain John Leverett, in behalf of Colonel Thomas Temple, Sept. 26, 1656.†

Present — The President, Adams, Ames, Appleton, Blagden, Bowen, Brigham, Davis, Ellis, Felt, Lawrence, Livermore, Robbins, Sears, Shattuck, Shurtleff, Sibley, Ticknor, White, Willard, Winthrop, and Worcester.

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\* This large mezzotinto engraving is in the Cabinet of the Society. — Eds.

† See 4 Collections, II. 230-233. — Eds.

## MONTHLY MEETING.

Thursday, March 9, 1854, 12 M. The Society held their stated meeting, — the President in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read.

The Librarian communicated donations from Hon. Mr. Walley, Rev. Mr. Bartlet, of Chelsea, Mr. Norton, of the "Literary Gazette," from several persons whose names are not given, and from Messrs. Savage, Shurtleff, and Winthrop, of the Society.

Messrs. N. L. FROTHINGHAM, SEARS, and WORCESTER were appointed a Nominating Committee, under Chapter III. of the Society's Rules, to report at the next meeting a list of members for officers of the Society for the ensuing year.

Messrs. WINTHROP and AMES were appointed a committee on the Treasurer's accounts for the last year, to report at the next meeting.

For Corresponding Members, Dr. Shurtleff nominated William Willis, Esq., of the city of Portland, Maine; Mr. Ticknor nominated Henry Hallam, Esq., of England; and Dr. Sparks nominated Hon. Thomas Babington Macaulay, of Edinburgh, Scotland.

On motion of Mr. AMES,

*Voted*, That Messrs. Clifford, Ames, and Sparks be a committee to frame, and report at the next meeting of the Society, a suitable circular to be issued by this Society, and to be sent to such Town-Clerks, such descendants of members of the General Court in Colonial and Provincial times, and such other persons as may probably have in their possession, reach, and control, any copies of the colonial or provincial laws, or fragments or loose leaves thereof, and any copies of

the printed journals of the House of Representatives, or parts or fragments thereof, from May, 1715, to May, 1785, in order that they may communicate what they may have, to the end that the Society may, while it is possible, collect and preserve one or more copies thereof for public use.

Also, *voted*, To refer to the same Committee, with full power to act in the premises according to their discretion, the following additional motion made by Mr. Ames: viz., That the Society do forthwith present their memorial or petition to the General Court, now in session, praying that the appropriate means be taken to preserve for public use one or more copies of a complete series of the statutes or Acts of the General Court, which were printed in colonial and provincial times; and also a complete series of all the printed journals of the House of Representatives that were ever printed, beginning with the year 1715.

On motion of Mr. SIBLEY,

*Voted*, That the President be requested to prepare a memoir of our late deceased brother, the Hon. James C. Merrill, for the next volume of the Society's Collections.\*

On motion of Mr. ROBBINS,

*Voted*, That the thanks of the Society be given to Mr. Ames for his extensive and laborious service in furnishing such a complete series of the Session Acts of the General Court of Massachusetts, from June, 1692, to May, 1699.

No communications were received from the members of the Second Section.

Present — The President, Ames, Appleton, Brigham, Clifford, Davis, Deane, Eliot, Felt, N. L. Frothingham, R. Frothingham, Jr., Jenks, Lunt, Paige, Robbins, Sears, Shattuck, Shurtleff, Sibley, Sparks, Ticknor, Willard, Winthrop, and Worcester.

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\* The Hon. James Cushing Merrill, elected in April, 1820, died Oct. 4, 1853. Mr. Savage having failed to prepare the memoir of Judge Merrill, a brief sketch has been furnished by Mr. Saltonstall, which will be found in this volume, on pp. 561-563. — Eds.



## ANNUAL MEETING, APRIL, 1854.

Thursday, April 13, 1854, 12 M. The Society held their meeting, — the President in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read.

The Librarian communicated donations from the New Jersey Historical Society, and from Messrs. Everett, Shurtleff, Webb, and Winthrop, of this Society.

Mr. APPLETON, from the Committee appointed at January meeting, 1851, on the subject of enlarged accommodations for the Society, with additional powers conferred by a vote passed at December meeting, 1853, made the following report, viz. : —

The Committee appointed to confer with the Provident Institution for Savings, on the subject of larger accommodations for this Society, report that they had one meeting with a committee of that institution, and a correspondence, which is herewith submitted, numbered 1 to 5. It will be seen that this Committee have not been able to induce that of the Savings Institution to name any terms on which they will exchange the accommodations we ask for in their new purchase of the Perkins house for that we hold at present. It would, therefore, appear that for the present we must be content as we are.

N. APPLETON,	} <i>Committee.</i>
DAVID SEARS,	
GEORGE TICKNOR,	

Mr. WINTHROP, from the Committee on the Treasurer's accounts for the past year, reported

That the accounts are properly vouched and correctly cast, and that there appears to have been a balance on hand of	
last general account of . . . . .	\$301.13
Received during the year on general account . . . . .	152.00
	<hr/>
	\$453.13
Paid during the year on general account . . . . .	348.81
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Leaving a balance in the Treasurer's hands of . . . . .	\$104.32
There is also a balance in the Treasurer's hands, on the book account . . . . .	
	224.84

ROBERT C. WINTHROP.\*

Boston, April 13, 1854.

The Committee upon the collection and preservation of copies of the Colonial and Provincial Laws and the Journals of the House, stated that they would be ready to make their report upon the subject-matter of their appointment at the next meeting of the Society.

The President communicated a letter, addressed to our late Corresponding Secretary, Rev. Dr. Young, deceased, by Lyman C. Draper, Esq., Corresponding Secretary of the Wisconsin Historical Society, requesting, in their behalf, a copy of the printed Collections of this Society, or of such parts thereof as may be conveniently spared.

*Voted,* To refer this communication to Messrs. Sparks, Ellis, and Sibley for their consideration, and to make report thereupon to this Society.

Mr. ELLIS communicated a letter from Mr. Quincy, who was appointed at March meeting, 1848, to prepare

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\* The receipts for the year were \$152, all for admission fees and assessments. The payments amounted to \$348.81. Of this sum \$51.30 were for taxes; \$186.29 to James I. Wood, assistant, and \$111.22 for miscellaneous expenses. At this time and for several years before and after this date, the sales of books were entered in the Treasurer's account only once in two years. — Eds.

a memoir of our late associate, Hon. John Quincy Adams, deceased, in which he states in substance that the material prepared by him for the memoir would require more space than an entire volume of the Society's Collections, of the usual size, and thereupon asks to be released from the appointment, upon the condition of his giving to the Society the entire profits, together with the copyright of his proposed Life of Mr. Adams. Whereupon,

*Voted*, That Messrs. John C. Gray, Ticknor, and Winthrop be a committee to communicate to President Quincy the Society's grateful sense of his liberal offer, and their acceptance of the same.

Also, *voted*, That the letter of President Quincy, together with the answer that the Committee shall make thereunto, be published in the next volume of the Society's Collections.\*

On motion of Mr. ELLIS,

*Voted*, That Mr. Robbins be requested to prepare a memoir of our late associate, Rev. Dr. Young, deceased, for the Society's Collections.†

On motion of the President,

*Voted*, That the letter of Mr. George May, April 3, instant, in relation to his drawing of Westminster Abbey, be referred to the Treasurer, that he may collect from members of the Society the amount not yet contributed for the purchase of the drawing; and, upon failure therein, to pay such amount from the Society's treasury.

Mr. SPARKS, from the Third Section, communicated copies of letters from Dr. William Douglass to Cadwalader Colden, 1721-1736.

*Voted*, To refer the same to the Publishing Committee.

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\* The letter and answer are printed in 4 Collections, II. 199-201. — EDS.

† Rev. Alexander Young, D.D., elected in June, 1835, died March 16, 1854. The memoir of him by the Rev. Chandler Robbins, D.D., is in 4 Collections, II. 241-245. — EDS.

The President, from the Third Section, communicated sundry Leverett papers, in addition to those communicated by him at the last February meeting.

*Voted*, To refer the same to the Publishing Committee.\*

Mr. SHATTUCK, from the Third Section, communicated to the Society a deposit of the Diary of the Rev. David Hall, a clergyman in Sutton, Massachusetts, in the last century; which deposit is made by Mr. David Hall, of West Killingly, Connecticut, a grandson of the diarist, on the following condition, as prescribed by him in his letter to Mr. Shattuck, viz.: —

“To be deposited in the Massachusetts Historical Society Library, until such time as I may wish to withdraw it. I shall probably never call for it, except to return it again.

“DAVID HALL.”

The Treasurer reported that he had paid from the treasury the purchase-money for the original account of John Usher, Treasurer and Receiver-General of New England, January, 1688-89, pursuant to the vote of the Society at their October meeting, 1853; and, thereupon,

*Voted*, To refer this document to the Publishing Committee.†

Mr. SEARS, from the Nominating Committee, under Chapter III., appointed at the last meeting to report a list of members for officers of the Society for the ensuing year, made the following report, viz.: —

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\* The Leverett Papers and the letters of Dr. Douglass will be found in the volume of Collections last cited. — Eds.

† It has not yet been printed by the Society. — Eds.

JAMES SAVAGE . . . . .	for	PRESIDENT.
JOSEPH WILLARD . . . . .	„	RECORDING SECRETARY.
WILLIAM P. LUNT . . . . .	„	CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.
JOSEPH B. FELT . . . . .	„	LIBRARIAN.
RICHARD FROTHINGHAM, JR. . . . .	„	TREASURER.
NATHANIEL B. SHURTLEFF . . . . .	„	CABINET-KEEPER.
ROBERT C. WINTHROP	}	. . . . . „ STANDING COMMITTEE.
GEORGE W. BLAGDEN		
CHARLES DEANE		
LUCIUS R. PAIGE		
CHANDLER ROBBINS		

Mr. SIBLEY, from the Committee appointed to collect, assort, and count the votes for officers of the Society for the ensuing year, and to make report thereupon, reported in performance of that duty that the whole number of votes was fifteen, all of which were cast for the foregoing gentlemen, except one of them, who received fourteen votes.

Whereupon, they were severally declared to be duly chosen.

Present — The President, Appleton, Blagden, Davis, Deane, Ellis, Felt, Francis, N. L. Frothingham, R. Frothingham, Jr., F. C. Gray, J. C. Gray, Hoar, Jenks, Paige, Robbins, Sears, Shattuck, Shurtleff, Sibley, Sparks, Ticknor, Webb, White, Willard, Winthrop, and Worcester.

JOSEPH WILLARD,  
*Recording Secretary.*

[Four Resident Members died since the preceding annual meeting, — the Hon. Nahum Mitchell, the Hon. James Cushing Merrill, the Hon. Simon Greenleaf, and the Rev. Alexander Young, D.D. Memoirs of the first

three never having been published by the Society are here furnished. — EDS.]

*Notice of Hon. Nahum Mitchell.*

Nahum Mitchell was the son of Cushing and Jennet (Orr) Mitchell, and was born in East Bridgewater, Feb. 12, 1769. On his father's side he traced his ancestry back to Francis Cook, one of the passengers in the "Mayflower," and to Experience Mitchell, who came over in the "Ann," the third vessel which arrived at Plymouth. He was prepared for college by the Hon. Beza Hayward, of Bridgewater, and graduated at Cambridge in 1789. During a part of his college course he taught school at Weston; and after graduating he also taught for a short time in Bridgewater and Plymouth. While teaching at the latter place he read law with the Hon. Joshua Thomas, afterward Judge of Probate for Plymouth County, and in due time was admitted to the bar. He then opened an office in his native town, and acquired an extensive practice, beside preparing many young men for admission to the bar, among whom were the late Hon. Ezekiel Whitman, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Maine, and the late Hon. Elijah Hayward, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Ohio.

He represented Bridgewater in the General Court from 1798 to 1803 and in 1809 and 1812, and was one of the senators from Plymouth County in the following year. From 1814 to 1820 he was a member of the Executive Council, and from 1822 to 1827, Treasurer of the Commonwealth. From 1803 to 1805 he was a member of the United States House of Representatives. In 1801 he was one of the commissioners to establish the boundary line between Massachusetts and Rhode Island; and in 1823 he was one of a similar commission to settle the boundary line between Massachusetts and Connecticut. For ten years, from 1811 to 1821, he was one

of the Judges of the Circuit Court of Common Pleas for the Southern Circuit of Massachusetts, and for the last two years he was Chief Justice; and at various periods he held other public offices by the choice of his fellow-citizens or by executive appointment.

Judge Mitchell was chosen a member of the Historical Society August 25, 1818; and to the seventh volume of the second series of the Collections he contributed a Description of Bridgewater. From April, 1835, to December, 1836, he was Librarian, and from 1839 to 1845 he was Treasurer. In 1840 he published a History of Bridgewater, with a Genealogical Register. His antiquarian and genealogical knowledge was copious and exact. He had also a great fondness for music, and published in early life a collection of psalm tunes, known as the Bridgewater Collection, which passed through nearly thirty editions.

Judge Mitchell died suddenly on the 1st of August, 1853, in Plymouth, where he had gone to attend the celebration of the embarkation of the Pilgrims at Delfthaven. He married, in 1794, Nabby, daughter of General Silvanus Lazell, of Bridgewater, and had five children. His reputation as a lawyer and a judge was deservedly high; he was exact and methodical in all his habits; of untiring industry; and of a remarkably even temper.

E. A.

### *Notice of Hon. James C. Merrill.*

James Cushing Merrill, the son of Rev. Giles Merrill and Lucy Cushing, was born in the north parish of Haverhill, Massachusetts, Sept. 27, 1784, and died in Boston, Oct. 4, 1853. He married, Nov. 28, 1820, Anna Saltonstall (daughter of Dr. Nathaniel Saltonstall, of Haverhill), who was born Nov. 3, 1787, and died Oct. 17, 1865.

He, together with his brother Samuel, studied with his

father, finishing his education for college at Exeter, and graduating from Harvard in the Class of 1807. After studying law with the Hon. John Varnum, of Haverhill, he removed to Boston, where he practised his profession, and continued to reside during the remainder of his life.

For many years he was one of the Justices of the Police Court of Boston, but resigned this position in 1852, owing to declining health.

He represented Boston in both branches of the Legislature.

In his class at college he took high rank, being its first scholar in Greek. He continued through life to indulge his taste for Greek literature as his highest recreation, and was for thirty years on the Examining Committee for Greek at Harvard. He retained a strong affection for Alma Mater, as well as for many of his class, which contained several distinguished men, in whose success he always evinced the deepest interest.

The relations between his brother Samuel, who was his classmate, and himself were very close. They possessed kindred tastes; and it is rare to see two brothers continue through life an intercourse so affectionate, so genial and beautiful in its simplicity and mutual respect.

Judge Merrill was a singularly pure and upright man; always prompt to rebuke the growing tendency of the age to depart from the stern simplicity of the early founders of the Republic, at the same time rejoicing to see every reasonable indulgence given to those of the younger generation, whom he delighted to have around his hospitable hearth. His house was a home to the numerous friends and relations who ever received from him and his excellent wife that warm welcome which, it is felt, comes from the heart.

A strong conservative in all his views, he was naturally a zealous member of the Episcopal Church. Possessed of strong convictions, leading a simple, unpretending life, he was true to every duty imposed on him.



The Massachusetts Historical Society, the American Antiquarian Society, and the New England Historic-Genealogical Society, are among the societies with which he was connected.

L. S.

*Notice of Hon. Simon Greenleaf, LL.D.*

The family of Greenleaf, whose genealogy was published in 1854 by the Rev. Jonathan Greenleaf, of Brooklyn, New York, the younger brother of the subject of this notice, is supposed to be of Huguenot origin, and its name a translation of the French *Feuillevert*. The first of the family to come to this country was Edmund Greenleaf, of Brixham, Devonshire, who emigrated to Newbury in 1635, removed to Boston about 1650, and died there in 1671. His descendant in the fourth generation was the Hon. Jonathan Greenleaf, a man of considerable note in his town and in the State. He was born and lived all his life in Newbury, where he accumulated a large property by the business of ship-building. He represented his native town in the Provincial Congress, and, after the Revolution, was successively a member of the House of Representatives, of the Senate, and of the Executive Council of the Commonwealth. He died, an old man, in 1807. His second son, Moses, was also a ship-carpenter, but at the beginning of the struggle for Independence entered the army, where he attained the rank of captain, and served until near the close of hostilities. He was afterward associated with his father in building ships for some years, and then removed to New Gloucester, Maine, where he became a farmer, and where he died in 1812. Captain Moses Greenleaf married, in 1776, Lydia Parsons, daughter of the Rev. Jonathan Parsons, of Newburyport, by whom he had five children. Mrs. Greenleaf survived her husband many years, and died in Williamsburg, Maine, in 1834.

Simon Greenleaf was the fourth child and third son of this Captain Moses and Lydia (Parsons) Greenleaf, and was born in Newburyport, Dec. 5, 1783. When his parents removed to New Gloucester, about 1790, Simon was left in the care of his grandfather, probably that he might enjoy the privileges of better schools than a farming town could offer. He was placed in the Latin School of Newburyport, then kept by Michael Walsh, the author of a well-known arithmetic. Here he received an academic training. When about eighteen years of age he left the Academy, and joined the family in New Gloucester, where he at once began the study of the law in the office of the late Ezekiel Whitman, afterward Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Maine, but then a young lawyer not much older than his pupil. Here he remained three years, when, in 1805, he was admitted to the bar of Cumberland County, and began the practice of his profession in Standish, a small town on Sebago Pond sixteen miles from Portland. After a short stay he removed to the neighboring town of Gray, where, being for some years the only lawyer, he acquired considerable business. He remained in Gray until 1818, when the increasing necessities of his family induced him to remove to the larger field of Portland. The removal was doubtless encouraged by the fact that the political engagements of the leading members of the Portland bar at that time made an opening for new and younger men. Mr. Greenleaf's success was decided.

The District of Maine became an independent State in 1820, and consequently a separate Supreme Court was established. It was necessary to appoint some one to report the decisions of this new bench, and the Governor selected Mr. Greenleaf for the office. He entered at once upon its duties, and held the office for twelve years. During this period he published nine volumes of Reports. These reports, Professor Parsons says, "are among the most valuable of the

American Reports.”\* A second edition of them was published shortly before Mr. Greenleaf's death. In 1832, he resigned the position of reporter, and in the following year received an invitation to succeed Mr. John Hooker Ashmun in the Royall Professorship in the Dane Law School at Cambridge. This office he held until 1846, when, after the death of Judge Story, he was transferred to the Dane Professorship, which he filled only two years, resigning it on account of failing health, and the great labors required from the incumbent. His release from cares was followed by an almost immediate restoration of his health, and he was spared to accomplish much more work. His resignation was accepted with the greatest reluctance, and his name was continued on the catalogue of the University as Professor Emeritus until his death.

In 1821, almost at the beginning of his labors as reporter of the Maine Supreme Court, Mr. Greenleaf published his first book, “A full Collection of Cases, Overruled, Denied, Doubted, or Limited in their Application, taken from American and English Reports.” He was prompted to this work by a somewhat curious circumstance. He had given an opinion, and had argued a case consequent upon this opinion, trusting to an English decision that seemed conclusive in the matter. The judge, to his amazement, informed him that the case had been overruled and was entirely without weight. It was a very useful book to the profession, and has been re-edited with additions by other hands.

Mr. Greenleaf was selected as Royall Professor by the influence of Judge Story, who had known him for some time, and whose notice he is said to have attracted by his knowledge of Admiralty Law, in those days a little-known branch of the profession. In William Willis's excellent “History

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\* Manuscript “Address commemorative of Professor Greenleaf,” delivered before the students of the Dane Law School, kindly placed at my disposal by the author. I shall quote it frequently.

of the Law, the Courts, and the Lawyers of Maine," there is an extended notice of Mr. Greenleaf, with an interesting anecdote, showing his acquaintance with ships and ship-building.

The Dane Law School was certainly fortunate in obtaining so learned and accomplished a scholar and teacher to fill the gap left by the lamented death of Ashmun, a vacancy which it was thought by many could not be satisfactorily filled at all. Mr. Greenleaf devoted himself to the school, and spent without stint in its service the best years of his life. He became thoroughly identified with it, and gave it all his time and thought. Judge Story's engagements were such that he was absent for a very considerable part of each year; and the main work of instruction devolved upon the Royall Professor, and the prosperity of the school depended largely upon him. How well Mr. Greenleaf succeeded is evident from the statement that the number of pupils rose from about fifty in 1833, to nearly three times that number in 1848. Ten thousand volumes were added to the school library during Mr. Greenleaf's active connection with the school. Judge Story's own opinion of Mr. Greenleaf's success is given in a touching letter acknowledging the dedication of the treatise on the Law of Evidence, in 1842.\*

Professor Greenleaf published in 1842 and subsequent years his admirable "Treatise on the Law of Evidence." Of this work Prof. Parsons says, in the address to the students of the Law School already cited:—

"It is, however, in his work on the Law of Evidence that we find the best proof of his industry, his learning, and his sagacity. Of this book I often speak to you, and from it I lecture in the course of the instruction of the school. . . . You know my opinion of it; nor will I pause upon it, excepting to say that Mr. Greenleaf was induced to make it by finding, when he endeavored to teach the Law of Evidence, great difficulty from the want of a text-book on this subject,

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\* Story's Life and Letters, Vol. II. pp. 409-411.

adapted to this purpose. . . . What was needed here, and what Mr. Greenleaf undertook to prepare, was a philosophical and logical treatise, containing in a compact form all that was essential to a full exposition of the law on this important subject, and nothing more. And to this book he imparts the charm of a style, of which the transparent elegance is not thrown away, although it be bestowed upon a work apparently so ill adapted to receive it as a law book. He certainly intended it at first mainly as a manual for students. But the profession took it up; and, as repeated editions were demanded, it grew upon his hands; and it grew equally in public favor, until it has overcome all competition, and become *the* book which every student must read, and every practising lawyer must have."

Mr. Greenleaf's chief publications, besides those already mentioned, were an "Examination of the Testimony of the Four Evangelists, by the Rules of Evidence administered in Courts of Justice. With an Account of the Trial of Jesus"; an edition of "Cruise's Digest of the Law of Real Property"; a "Discourse at his Inauguration as Royall Professor"; and a "Discourse Commemorative of the Life and Character of the Hon. Joseph Story, LL.D." He contributed also not infrequently to the law magazines. His Examination of the Testimony of the Evangelists is an evidence of his deep interest in the truths of religion, and his desire to do his part in promulgating and sustaining them. This book was republished in England at the suggestion of Archbishop Sumner, and to the English edition, which was revised by the author, was added a translation of Dupin's "Trial of Jesus," made by Mr. John Pickering. His religious feelings were indeed always a prominent feature of his character.

In 1806, Mr. Greenleaf married Hannah Kingman, a daughter of Captain Ezra Kingman, of East Bridgewater, Massachusetts. They had fifteen children, eleven of whom died in infancy, and only one of whom now survives. After his retirement from active duties in the Law School, Mr. Greenleaf continued his residence in Cambridge, working

diligently at his books and profession. He continued his labors until the very end, dying suddenly on October 6, 1853, having nearly completed his seventieth year. I quote once more from Professor Parsons's address:—

“In that last of his days on earth, he had been busy at home and abroad. As some of you saw, he exercised his habitual kindness by bringing a stranger to our Hall, and opening to his wants the wealth of our Library. He had gone into the neighboring city, and there employed himself with his usual activity; and, through the day, while at home, he had warmed and illumined that home with the daily and hourly love which made it happy; and, when evening brought on the hours of rest, he rested, as he loved to rest, in working still. A proof-sheet of the book he was then publishing was brought to him. Upon that paper he wrought; he folded it, and, after his family devotions, retired, and — died. An appropriate euthanasia!”

Mr. Greenleaf received the honorary degree of A.M. from Bowdoin College in 1817; that of LL.D from Harvard in 1834, from Amherst in 1845, and from Alabama College in 1852. He was elected a member of this Society in November, 1837. In the following year, he presented to our Library a large and valuable collection of military papers of his father, Captain Moses Greenleaf. These are now arranged in a folio volume and to the collection is prefixed a brief memoir of the captain by his son.

G. D.

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#### MONTHLY MEETING.

Thursday, May 11, 1854, 12 M. The Society held their stated meeting, — the President in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read.

The Librarian communicated donations from the City of Boston, the United States Government, Mr.

Edward Griffin, Dr. George Chandler, Mr. Jonathan Pearson, Librarian of Union College, Mr. John Odronaux, and from Messrs. Everett, Quincy, Ticknor, Webb, and Winthrop, of this Society.

*Voted*, That the Treasurer be directed to pay to Mr. George May the sum of twelve dollars, the residue of the purchase-money of the drawing of Westminster Abbey.

Right Honorable THOMAS BABINGTON MACAULAY, of Edinburgh, Scotland, HENRY HALLAM, Esq., of the City of London, and WILLIAM WILLIS, Esq., of Portland, severally nominated at the last March meeting, were unanimously elected Corresponding Members, — Messrs. SHURTLEFF and ELIOT, Scrutinizing Committee.

Mr. AMES, from the Committee upon the collection and preservation of copies of the Colonial and Provincial Laws and the Journals of the House, stated that the Committee would be prepared to make their report at the next meeting.

Mr. SIBLEY, from the Committee on the request of the Wisconsin Historical Society for a copy of the Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society, read a letter from Lyman C. Draper, Esq., the Corresponding Secretary of the former Society, giving in some detail their condition and prospects. Whereupon,

*Voted*, To accept the report, and that a copy of the Collections be presented to the Wisconsin Historical Society.

The Recording Secretary communicated a letter from the Rev. Dr. Palfrey, resigning his seat as a member of the Society.

He also communicated a letter from Mr. William Duane, Treasurer of the "Seventy-six Society" at

Philadelphia, setting forth the objects and Constitution of the Society.

The Standing Committee nominated, for Resident Members, His Excellency Emory Washburn, Governor of the Commonwealth, *vice* Rev. Dr. Young, deceased, and Rev. Samuel K. Lothrop, D.D., of Boston, *vice* Rev. Dr. Palfrey, resigned.

Mr. QUINCY presented to the Society a manuscript found among his papers, entitled "Summary of the Charges of the State of Massachusetts against the United States, as now stated, in January, February, March, &c., 1791, in twenty-two books, and laid before the Board in dollars," it being charges of the State of Massachusetts for Revolutionary services in the years 1779 and 1780.

Mr. DEANE, from the First Section, communicated a copy of a paper taken from the archives of the Commonwealth, entitled "A Declaration of the Council of New England for the Resignation of the Great Charter, and of the Reasons moving thereto, and the Act of Surrender of the Great Charter of New England to His Majesty." \*

*Voted*, To refer this document to the Publishing Committee.

Mr. AMES, from the First Section, communicated a circular, dated "Boston, April 20, 1773," signed by Peter Bestes and others, by order of a committee of the

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\* The paper communicated by Mr. Deane at this time was transcribed by him from an early, perhaps nearly contemporaneous, manuscript, in a volume of "Miscellaneous Papers" in the Society's Library. The document had already been printed by Hazard, I. 390-394, and may be found, with kindred memoranda, in the "Records of the Council for New England," in the Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society for April, 1867. — EDS.



slaves in the Province of Massachusetts Bay, and addressed to the Representatives of the towns in the Province, asking the "ample relief which, as men, they have a natural right to, and purposing, as soon as able, to transport themselves to some part of the coast of Africa," &c.

He also communicated a copy of a Resolve of the Provincial Congress, Watertown, June 29, 1775, making provision for thirteen thousand coats for the Massachusetts forces, with the number to be furnished by the respective towns, except Boston and Charlestown. Also, a sample of the cloth to be used, inclosed in the circular of Congress addressed to the selectmen of Stoughtonham.

Mr. SAVAGE communicated three receipts, dated in Holden, in the year 1777, for services connected with the Army of the Revolution; also, a note of thanks, of ancient date, put up by Jonathan Diman and wife.

*Voted*, That Mr. Ames be a committee to exchange with the Commonwealth one of the four copies of the Laws, edition 1726, the property of this Society, for a copy of any edition of the old Laws of which the Commonwealth has a duplicate, and in which this Society is deficient. Also, that Mr. Ames be a committee on the copy of 1726, presented by Mr. Ticknor to supply deficiencies.

Present—The President, Ames, Austin, Blagden, Davis, Deane, Eliot, Ellis, Felt, Francis, N. L. Frothingham, R. Frothingham, Jr., F. C. Gray, Jenks, Lunt, Minot, Paige, Quincy, Robbins, Sears, Shattuck, Shurtleff, Sibley, Ticknor, Webb, Willard, Winthrop, and Worcester.

## MONTHLY MEETING.

Thursday, June 8, 1854, 12 M. The Society held their stated meeting, — the President in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read.

The Librarian communicated donations from the State Library of New York, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Mr. Jonathan Pearson, Librarian of Union College, two tracts entitled “Cuba and its Government,” donor unknown, and from Mr. Winthrop, of this Society.

The Corresponding Secretary communicated a letter of acceptance from William Willis, Esq., of Portland, elected as a Corresponding Member at the last meeting.

Mr. AMES, from the Committee on the Colonial and Provincial Laws and the Journals of the House, reported the form of the proposed circular. After some discussion,

*Voted*, That the report be recommitted to the same Committee.

His Excellency Governor EMORY WASHBURN was chosen a Resident Member, *vice* Rev. Dr. Young, deceased, and Rev. Samuel K. Lothrop, D.D., *vice* Rev. Dr. Palfrey, resigned, — Messrs. BRIGHAM and DEANE, Scrutinizing Committee.

Mr. DAVIS referred to the record of July meeting, 1840, by which it appears that he then gave to the Society the picture of Washington crossing the Delaware, on the condition that the Society would have it repaired, the expense of which would be sixty dollars. Mr. Davis now expressing his intention of withdrawing the picture unless the condition is complied with,

*Voted*, That he be a committee to provide for the repair of the picture, and that he be authorized to draw upon the Treasurer for the expense thereof.

On motion of Mr. LIVERMORE,

*Voted*, That the Standing Committee, in connection with the Librarian, be requested to report at the next meeting of the Society what means, in their opinion, should be adopted for keeping open the Library according to the By-Laws of the Society; and also to consider and report upon the subject of a new catalogue.

The President communicated a donation from M. Achille Jubinal, Deputy for the Arrondissement de Bagnères, and General Secretary of the Historical Institute of Paris, by the hands of Compte d'Erleckè, of the following papers, viz. : —

1. Prospectus of the proposed publication of Ancient Historical Tapestries. Two hundred and forty plates, with text.
2. Prospectus of the proposed publication of L'Armeria Real de Madrid, or Museum of Spanish Artillery. Eighty plates, with text.
3. Catalogue of the Paintings and Sculpture presented by Jubinal to the town of Bagnères de Bigorre, 1853.
4. Catalogue of the Books and Objects of Art, &c., presented by Jubinal to the same town, to form a Library and Museum, 1853.
5. Jubinal's Circular, Paris, Jan. 16, 1854, soliciting the Society's publications for the Public Library at Bagnères de Bigorre, — a place of large resort for its mineral waters.
6. A list of Archæological Publications for sale by Didron, at Paris.

From the Second Section no communications were received.

Present — The President, Ames, Brigham, Davis, Deane, Ellis, Felt, R. Frothingham, Jr., Jenks, Livermore, Lunt, Robbins, Webb, Willard, and Winthrop.

## MONTHLY MEETING.

Thursday, July 13, 1854, 12 M. The Society held their stated meeting, — the President in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read.

The Librarian, through Dr. Webb, communicated donations from the Indian Bureau at Washington, General William H. Sumner, Francis Jackson, Esq., the Boston Mercantile Library Association, the American Antiquarian Society, and from Messrs. Everett, Lunt, Webb, and Willard, of this Society.

Dr. WEBB read a letter from Professor Henry, of the Smithsonian Institution, stating that they had forwarded all their volumes to this Society, as respectively published, and had received no volumes of the Massachusetts Historical Society in return.

After some discussion, on motion of Mr. LIVERMORE,

*Voted*, To refer this letter to a committee of three.

Messrs. HILLARD, BLAGDEN, and LIVERMORE were appointed to be the committee.

The Corresponding Secretary read letters of acceptance from Governor Washburn and Rev. Dr. Lothrop.

Mr. AMES, from the Committee on the Colonial and Provincial Laws and the Journals of the House, reported the circular as taken into a new draft, together with the historical statement appended thereto. And it was thereupon

*Voted*, To accept the same, and that the same committee be authorized to carry the votes upon this subject into effect.\*

\* The circular, as now reported, with the historical statement appended, was printed on a sheet of letter-paper for distribution. We also reprint the entire paper here:—

“To \_\_\_\_\_

“DEAR SIR, — The Massachusetts Historical Society solicits your co-operation to enable it to collect, bind up, and preserve, a series of the Laws of Massachusetts, while a Colony and a Province, from the first printing of them down to the Revolution, and a copy of all the Journals of the House of Representatives of Massachusetts, which were printed in Provincial and Revolutionary times, from May, 1715, to May, 1780. The Society has great hopes that, by gathering the fragments which may be found, it may be able to obtain a perfect series of those Laws and Journals. If you should find or know of any volume, or pamphlet, or loose leaves of any of those Laws or Journals, which the Society could probably obtain, you will confer a favor by giving information of the contents, and of the person from whom the same may probably be obtained. If the same, or any part thereof, will facilitate the object of the Society, application will be made to have the same deposited in the Library of the Society, for public use, under such regulations as may ensure the preservation of the series. The article hereto appended describes more fully the matter which the Society desires to collect and preserve.

“Any information which you can give to facilitate this object, addressed by mail, to Joseph Willard, Esq., of Boston, one of the Secretaries of the Society, will be gratefully acknowledged.

“JOHN H. CLIFFORD,	} Committee of the Massachusetts Historical Society.
JARED SPARKS,	
ELLIS AMES,	

“MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S ROOMS,  
BOSTON, August 10th, 1854.”

“The Massachusetts Historical Society was organized and went into operation in 1791, and was incorporated by an act of the General Court, Feb. 19th, 1794. Governor Sullivan, one of the original members, in dedicating his ‘History of Land Titles in Massachusetts’ to his brethren the members of that Society, in the year 1801, says that that Society was formed by the government, under an expectation that its exertions would collect and preserve the means for furnishing a complete history of our country; and, among other branches of history, attaches great importance to the history of our laws and jurisprudence.

“Great as have been the exertions of the Historical Society towards the end for which the same was formed, yet it has not collected and preserved the means of furnishing a complete history of the legislation of Massachusetts. In other words, the Society has not yet gathered a perfect series of the Acts and Laws which were printed and published in Colonial and Provincial times,

The President communicated the written request of G. H. Hollister, Esq., of Litchfield, Connecticut, repre-

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at the end of each session of the General Court, nor a copy of all the Journals of the House of Representatives of the Province and State of the Massachusetts Bay, which were printed from May, 1715, to May, 1780. Neither in the State-House, nor in any library, public or private, have all those Acts, Laws, and Journals been collected and preserved, notwithstanding the abundant means provided therefor at the time of printing and distributing the same. The confusion of the times between the repeal of the Colonial Charter and the granting of the Province Charter; the burning of the House of Assembly, in 1747, in which the records were deposited; and the disturbance of the public records, documents, and papers, during the early part of the Revolution, were doubtless among the principal causes of these deficiencies in the library and offices in the State House.

"In 1672, the second or third edition or digest of the Colony Laws was printed and distributed,\* and from that time to the present, at the end of each session of the General Court, the Acts and Laws have been printed, and a copy furnished for each member, and for every town then incorporated. Thus in the library of the American Antiquarian Society, at Worcester, there is appended to a copy of the printed edition of the laws of 1672, nearly a complete series of the Acts and Laws of the General Court, paged in succession from 1672 down to the time of the Province Charter. At all times when the Journals of the House of Representatives have been printed, a copy was furnished for each town and for each member of the General Court.

"In order, then, at this late day, to gather and arrange in some suitable place or places, one or more copies of a perfect series of all those printed Acts and Laws in chronological order, and one or more copies of all those printed Journals of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, recourse must be had to those places to which the same, or parcels, fragments, and even loose and separate leaves thereof, have been thrown by time and accident.

"The Massachusetts Historical Society, satisfied that several perfect copies may be found, by a reasonable degree of search, resolved, at its monthly meeting held on the second Thursday of March, 1854, to issue a circular to such town clerks, such descendants of members of the General Court in Colonial and Provincial times, and to such other persons as might probably have in their possession, reach, and control, any copies of the Colonial or Provincial Laws, or fragments or loose leaves thereof, and any copies of the printed Journals of the House of Representatives of Massachusetts, or parts, or fragments thereof, from May, 1715, to May, 1780, in order that the gentlemen to whom the same might come, might communicate information of what they have, to the end that the Society (while it was yet possible) might collect and preserve one or more copies thereof for public use.

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\* The edition or digest printed in 1672 was the third. The first printed edition of the laws was published in 1649, but not a single copy is known to be in existence. The second printed edition or digest was issued in 1660. — Eds.

senting that he is preparing a History of that State, and asking permission to examine the "Trumbull Papers,"

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"The Historical Society already has one copy of a perfect series of all the Sessions Acts, from May 14, 1692, when the Province Charter went into effect, up to the May session of the year 1699. The Acts and Laws of the June session, 1692, were published in sixteen pages; those of the October session of that year in a pamphlet of ninety pages; those of the February session following in six pages; and the Act of the March session, 1693, in two pages. From that time, and beginning with the May session of 1693, the Sessions Acts for nineteen sessions following, at which any Acts were passed, were printed in 321 consecutive pages, ending with the November session, 1698, which was the last session before the May session of 1699.

"The last 123 pages of the Society's copy of this series, comprehending the entire legislation of the political years 1697-98 and 1698-99, cannot be found in the State House, and, so far as we know, is the only perfect copy in existence of the whole legislation of those political years.

"In 1699 the Provincial Government ordered an edition of the Laws then in force. Accordingly, at the end of the May session, 1699, an edition of the Laws enacted since May, 1692, except such as, pursuant to the Province Charter, had been repealed by the King in Council, or by the General Court, or, from the temporary nature of them, had ceased to have any further effect, including the Sessions Acts of the May session, 1699, was printed in 158 pages, with an index of four pages at the end. From that time the Sessions Acts were printed at the end of each and every session, and paged in order to be bound up and to form one volume with the edition of 1699, undoubtedly up to the February session of 1714, though we have never seen the Sessions Acts further than page 340 (the end of the May session, 1709), except a loose leaf or two of one of the sessions in 1711.

"By order of Government, another edition of the Laws then unrepealed and in force, was printed just previous to the May session of 1714, in 240 pages, with an index of 16 pages prefixed. From that time the Sessions Acts were printed at the end of each session, up to and including the May session of 1726, and paged so as to form a volume therewith. We have seen as far as the 430th page in the series.

"After the May session of 1726, and before the November session following, a new edition of all the Provincial Statutes then in force was published in 347 pages, with an index of 17 pages prefixed. From that time, the Sessions Acts, paged so as to form a volume therewith, were printed at the end of every session, down to and including the May session of 1742, making a volume in all of 789 pages.

"In 1742, the government ordered a new edition of the laws then in force, and directed that those that were temporary in their nature, or which were to be in force only to a certain time therein named, should be separated from those that had no certain time named in them when they should expire, which they called Perpetual. Accordingly, between the November session, 1742, and the March session following, the Perpetual Laws then in force were printed in

from Vol. I. to Vol. VII. inclusive, and from Vol. XIV. to the end, and to make copies and extracts, with a view

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333 pages, with an index of 28 pages prefixed; and the Sessions Acts of the Perpetual class were printed and paged to conform to this edition, down through the May session of 1760, making a volume of 526 pages in all, though there was a misprint in paging, by which the last page is paged 432, and the thirteen preceding pages were paged erroneously. Between the May session, 1742, and the November session of the same year, all the Temporary Laws then in force since the Province Charter, were printed, according to the foregoing order, in a volume of 56 pages, with an index of four pages prefixed: and the Sessions Acts of the Temporary class were afterwards printed at the end of each and every session, and paged consecutively, to conform to this edition, down to the May session of 1755, making about 465 pages, though we never have seen further than the 452d page. From and after the May session, 1747, this series has never been found complete, that we are aware of; the collections thereof being more defective, so far as we have observed, than those of any former or subsequent series of the Provincial Statutes.

"On the 9th of April, 1754, the government ordered a new edition of the Temporary Laws. Accordingly, between the February and May sessions of the year 1755, a new edition of the Temporary Laws then in force, was published in 166 pages, with an index prefixed; and from that time until the 25th February, 1763, the Sessions Acts and Laws of the Temporary class were printed and paged to conform to that edition, making in all a volume of 561 pages.

"By order of the Provincial Government, in 1759, an edition of all the Perpetual Laws then in force was printed and published in 396 pages, with an index of 24 pages prefixed. From that time, until the dissolution, by Governor Gage, of the last General Court previous to the Revolution, at Salem, on the 17th day of June, 1774, all the Laws of the Perpetual class, including some important acts of Parliament, enacted for the government of the colonies in general, or of Massachusetts in particular, were printed and paged consecutively, so as to form one volume with the edition of 1759, comprehending in all 679 pages.

"In 1763 were printed in a volume of 179 pages, with an index of 10 pages prefixed, all the Temporary Laws then in force (except a pamphlet of 52 pages printed separately); and from that time to June 17th, 1774, the Sessions Acts of the Temporary class were printed at the end of each session, and paged to conform to this edition, making in all, with sundry acts of Parliament, 528 pages.

"The Journal of the House of Representatives of Massachusetts, for the political year 1715-16, was printed and distributed. From May, 1716, to May, 1780, all the Journals of the House were printed and distributed. The Journals of the House were again printed for the political years 1784-85, 1807-08, and 1854.

"The original manuscript Journals of the House of Representatives, prior to the Constitution, seem never to have been preserved. The General Court



of publishing the same, or parts thereof, in his proposed History.

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Records, which in manuscript were continued from the origin of Government in Massachusetts until through the year 1833, are not the Journals of the House of Representatives, but were made up on the basis of the Journal of the Council prior to the Constitution, and of the Senate since the Constitution, by the Secretary of the Colony, Province, State, or Commonwealth, for the time being; stating in detail the united action and results of both branches. The General Court Records give us no account of the matters which were agitated in the House and were not carried through the same; or which passed that branch, and were non-concurred in the Council or Senate; and in other respects fail to give a perfect history of the action of the popular branch of our Legislature. For example, the Journal of the House of Representatives of Massachusetts shows that in 1762, a strong party in the House attempted to render the office of Judge of the Superior Court of Judicature of the Province, incompatible with holding a seat in the Council or House of Representatives. The yeas and nays taken on the 20th April, 1762, upon the question whether the bill reported for that purpose should have a third reading, show that the friends of the bill afterwards belonged to the Revolutionary party; while the leading opponents of it were then the friends of prerogative, and were afterwards attached to the Tory party. The bill was then defeated in the House by a majority of seven; but the principle thereof, as then maintained by its advocates, was in 1780 made a part of our Constitution, and is eloquently set out in the 30th article of our Bill of Rights. The General Court Records of this period, however, make no allusion to this important item of our Constitutional history.

“A copy of the Sessions Acts and Laws unabridged, and containing each and every Act passed at all the respective sessions of our General Court, with a copy of all the Journals of the House of Representatives that were ever printed, are what the Historical Society desire to collect and arrange in chronological order upon their shelves, for the purpose of preserving for public use the means of a history of Massachusetts and its legislation in all past time.

“There never was preserved for the use of the State, a copy of the printed Sessions Acts from 1672 down to the second Charter, nor a complete copy of either of the above-named nine series of Laws and Sessions Acts, from May, 1692, to June 17, 1774. Two or three copies of the editions of 1759, 1763, 1755, and of the Perpetual Laws of 1742, with all the respective and appropriate series of Sessions Acts or supplements belonging thereto, as gathered up at the time when they were respectively published, and added in their order, and bound up, have been seen, one in one library, public or private, and another in another; but we have never seen the entire supplements, or series of Sessions Acts, which belong to the editions of 1699, 1714, 1726, and to the edition of the Temporary Laws of 1742. The Historical Society has not a perfect copy of either of the nine series of Laws in Provincial times, except the series from May, 1692, to May, 1699.

“The reason why the collections of the Laws in Colonial, and especially

*Voted*, That the Society grant Mr. Hollister's request, under the conditions set forth in the Society's Rule, No. VII., adopted at September meeting, 1849.

The following nominations were made of Corresponding Members: viz., Frederic Griffin, Esq., of Montreal, Canada, by the President; John Carter Brown, Esq.,

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in Provincial times, are so defective, is, that there was a general neglect to collect together, at the respective times of publication, and bind in the Supplements or Sessions Acts, paged to form a part of each of the above-named editions of Laws. By this neglect, the supplements or additions of Sessions Acts, amounting in all to more than the original volumes, and for historical purposes of far more value, were separated from their proper connection, their value not apprehended, and most of them probably destroyed.

"In many of the older towns, doubtless, considerable collections of the Provincial, and even of the Colonial legislation, exist in loose leaves, and in a disordered state, in boxes, barrels, and chests, and among the town books and papers, or in garrets or unfrequented parts of old dwelling-houses, or of public buildings, without any value attached to them, portions of which are occasionally destroyed for want of care.

"If Town Clerks, and other gentlemen taking an interest in the subject, would search in garrets, boxes, and chests, where town papers, books, and documents are now kept, or have been heretofore left, for any of the Laws and any of the Journals of the House above named; and if the descendants of members of the General Court in Provincial times, and others, into whose hands any of the foregoing matter, however small, may chance to fall, would do the like, and be so kind as to communicate by mail to the Massachusetts Historical Society information of what they discover, the Society will endeavor to do its duty to the public by collecting a perfect series, and arranging them in chronological order, where they may be examined by any gentleman who may desire to do so, and where the collection will be preserved. If there be manuscript copies of some of the Laws, of which no printed copies can be found, the library of the Historical Society would seem to be a good place to deposit them for preservation and use.

"It can be no object for towns or individuals to retain parts or fragments of those series of Laws, and of the Journals of the House; but their interest, and the public good, would rather be promoted by sending the same to the library of the Massachusetts Historical Society, in Boston, where the same will help to form an entire series, during all past time, which will be accessible to all inquirers, and be preserved to the most distant generations.

"A communication of this nature does not give space for an essay upon the uses, in a legal, political, historical, and literary point of view, of a perfect and chronological series of the matter hereby sought to be collected. To the gentlemen who will take the pains to read this article, we suppose that such an essay would be superfluous."—Eps.

of Providence, Rhode Island, by Dr. Webb ; Hon. Elijah Hayward, of Columbus, Ohio, by Mr. Ames.

The President communicated a letter from Mr. Whitehead, of the New Jersey Historical Society, by which it appears that he stands charged with the work "of editing the Analytical Index to the New Jersey Colonial Documents in the English Archives, obtained through the agency of Mr. Henry Stevens, and now ready to be prepared for publication as one of the volumes of the Society's Collections," and requesting aid in the way of information of papers, pamphlets, &c., in illustration of the documents.

*Voted,* To refer this letter to Messrs. Worcester, Robbins, and Webb.

Mr. AMES having heretofore presented to the Society a volume of Massachusetts Resolves of the session 1777-1778, the defective parts of which he had restored by laborious and exact diligence, to the extent of thirty-nine folio pages, in his own handwriting ; and he having subsequently presented to the Society a perfect printed copy of these Resolves, —

On his own motion and request,

*Voted,* To present the former copy to the Library of the American Antiquarian Society.

Present — The President, Ames, Blagden, Budington, R. Frothingham, Jr., Hillard, Jenks, Livermore, Lunt, Robbins, Shattuck, Webb, Wheatland, Willard, and Worcester.

## MONTHLY MEETING.

Thursday, Aug. 10, 1854, 12 M. The Society held their stated meeting, — the President in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read.

The Librarian, through Dr. Webb, communicated donations from the American Philosophical Society, from Messrs. Minot, Sibley, and Worcester, of this Society; also, the donation of a copy of Hon. James Meacham's Report on the Distribution of the Income of the Smithsonian Institution, donor's name not known.

The Committee on Professor Henry's letter, referred at the last meeting, were not present to report.

The following gentlemen were elected Corresponding Members, having been nominated at the last meeting: viz., FREDERIC GRIFFIN, Esq., of Montreal, Canada, JOHN CARTER BROWN, Esq., of Providence, Rhode Island, and Hon. ELIJAH HAYWARD, of Columbus, Ohio, — MESSRS. PAIGE and SHURTLEFF, Scrutinizing Committee.

The Committee on Mr. Whitehead's communication, through Dr. Webb, reported verbally that they found nothing in print in the Society's Library that would be of service in Mr. Whitehead's undertaking; but that, in addition to Governor Belcher's letters, of which New Jersey, it is believed, possesses a copy, there is undoubtedly manuscript matter in the Society's archives to Mr. Whitehead's purpose, but what, cannot be stated for want of a Catalogue.

*Voted*, That the same Committee be requested to communicate their result to Mr. Whitehead, and to request him to furnish the Committee a list of such documents as he desires, that they may serve him so far as may be in their power.

*Voted*, That Dr. Shurtleff be added to the Committee on the Library and Catalogue, appointed at the meeting in June last.

Remarks were made by various gentlemen upon the great importance of the subject intrusted to this Committee, and the need of large and energetic action.

It having been suggested that in the library of the late Hon. Judge Putnam, which library is now understood to be the property of John Lowell, Esq., there are copies of the following editions of the laws of the Province of Massachusetts Bay: viz., 1. Temporary Laws, ed. 1755, 561 pages; 2. Perpetual Laws, ed. 1759, 679 pages; 3. Temporary Laws, ed. 1763, 528 pages; with pamphlet of 52 pages added.

*Voted*, That Messrs. Ames and Brigham be a committee to wait upon Mr. Lowell, and state to him the desire of the Society to collect and preserve copies of all our colonial and provincial laws, as a matter of great importance and interest in the history of this Commonwealth, and solicit a gift of these volumes, or a deposit of them in their Library, for preservation, reference, and public use.

Present — The President, Ames, Barry, Brigham, N. L. Frothingham, J. C. Gray, Hoar, Jenks, Lothrop, Paige, Robbins, Shurtleff, Webb, Wheatland, Willard, Winthrop, and Worcester.

## MONTHLY MEETING.

Thursday, Sept. 14, 1854, 12 M. The Society held their stated meeting.

In the absence of the President and Recording Secretary, Mr. WINTHROP was chosen President *pro tem.*, and Dr. SHURTLEFF, Recording Secretary *pro tem.*

The record of the last meeting was read.

The Librarian, through Dr. Webb, communicated donations from Mr. William Cothren, of Woodbury, Connecticut, Mr. Jonathan Pearson, of Union College, Schenectady, New York, the city of Salem, the Congress of the United States, and from Messrs. Sibley and Winthrop, of this Society.

The Corresponding Secretary read letters of acceptance from the Right Honorable Thomas Babington Macaulay and Henry Hallam, Esq., elected at the meeting in May last; and from Frederic Griffin, Esq., John Carter Brown, Esq., and Hon. Elijah Hayward, elected at the meeting in August last.

Mr. RICHARD FROTHINGHAM, Jr., presented to the Society a copy of a Chinese newspaper, printed in California, and the earliest in that language printed in the United States.

Mr. SIBLEY communicated a letter from the Rev. Samuel Sewall, of Burlington, concerning the residence of the father of President Dunster, and perhaps the birthplace of the latter.\*

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\* A "Life of Henry Dunster, first President of Harvard College, by Rev. Jeremiah Chaplin, D.D.," Boston, 1872, contains all the information on the points here referred to which the writer was able to collect. — Eds.

No communications were received from the members of the Second Section.

Present — Adams, Ames, Davis, Ellis, Francis, R. Frothingham, Jr., Lunt, Robbins, Shattuck, Shurtleff, Sibley, Webb, Winthrop, and Hon. Mr. Hayward, Corresponding Member, from Ohio.

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### MONTHLY MEETING.

Thursday, Oct. 12, 1854, 12 M. The Society held their stated meeting, — the President in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read.

The Librarian communicated donations from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Messrs. E. B. Corwin, William B. Towne, and R. H. Stanton; also from Messrs. Quincy, Shattuck, Sibley, and Webb, of this Society.

Mr. Andrew Eliot deposited with the Society, on the 6th of September last, subject to his order and at his risk, a portrait of John Rogers, the Martyr, copied by Copley, in 1780, for Mr. George Rogers, of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, from an original portrait owned in London, and presented to Mr. Eliot's father by Mrs. Marchant, sister of Governor Hutchinson.\*

Mr. BRIGHAM, from the Committee appointed at the August meeting to solicit of John Lowell, Esq., a gift or deposit of certain volumes of the Laws of the Province of Massachusetts Bay, stated that the Committee will be prepared to make a report at the next meeting.

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\* See Appendix, p. 611. — Eds.

No report was received from the Committee to whom was referred at the last July meeting the letter of Professor Henry, of the Smithsonian Institution.

Mr. WINTHROP, in behalf of the Committee, consisting of the Standing Committee and Librarian, appointed at the last June meeting, to which the Cabinet-Keeper was added at the last August meeting, on the subject of keeping the Library open and making provision for a new Catalogue, made the following report, viz. : —

The Standing Committee of the Massachusetts Historical Society were requested, by an order passed at the June Meeting of the Society, 1854, “to report at the next meeting of the Society what means, in their opinion, should be adopted for keeping open the Library, according to the By-Laws of the Society, and also to consider and report upon the subject of a new catalogue,” and they were requested to consider the subject in connection with the Librarian.

By some misunderstanding or accident, this order had not been brought to the attention of the Standing Committee previous to the August meeting of the Society, when it was renewedly urged upon their consideration, and the Cabinet-Keeper, Dr. Shurtleff, was associated with them for this purpose. Since that time the Standing Committee have held several meetings on the subject, and they now submit the results of their deliberations.

The Committee are deeply sensible of the importance of doing something without further delay, in order to render the books and manuscripts and historical treasures of the Society at once more accessible and more safe. To this end, they believe that a perfect and systematic catalogue of the Library and Cabinet ought to be commenced and completed as soon as possible. Such a course is peculiarly necessary at this moment, in view of the possibility of a change of the Society's rooms. Few things could be more unfortunate than



a removal of all the books, pamphlets, papers, pictures, and curiosities belonging to the Society, without a more exact and careful inventory of them all than now exists.

The Committee are of opinion, also, that the other object contemplated in the order originally adopted at the June meeting is hardly second in interest and importance; viz., "the keeping open of the Library according to the By-Laws of the Society."

Article 18 of Chapter VIII. of the By-Laws says as follows: "The Library shall be open on all week days from nine to one o'clock in the forenoon, throughout the year, and from three to five in the afternoon in winter, and from three to seven in the afternoon in summer, except during the fortnight before the annual meeting in April, when it shall be closed for examination." In other words, the By-Laws contemplate a constant accessibility to the Library for those who are entitled to use it, and a practical devotion of our room and of its contents to the pursuit of historical studies. To this end, Article 5 of the same chapter declares of the Librarian, "that he shall be present in the Library in person, or by a substitute approved by the Standing Committee, at the regular hours appointed for keeping it open, and shall endeavor to render it useful to all who may resort to it."

The Committee believe that the time has come for carrying out these provisions of our By-Laws, both according to their letter and to their spirit, and for taking effective measures both "for keeping the Library open," and for "rendering it useful to all who may resort to it."

But how is all this to be accomplished? It is obvious that no competent and trustworthy person can be procured to fulfil the duties of Librarian of this Society, as prescribed in the By-Laws, without a very different remuneration from any which that officer has hitherto received. The present incumbent of that office is believed to have done all that could be expected, and perhaps more than all, at the present

rate of compensation. Nor can an exact and methodical catalogue of the Library and Cabinet be procured except at a considerable cost.

Your Committee, however, are of opinion that a common expenditure will cover both objects, and that the work of making a catalogue of the Library can be committed to no one so fitly as to him who shall be employed to keep the Library open. Indeed, this seems to have been the original contemplation of the By-Laws. The first article of Chapter VIII. declares expressly, "The Librarian shall have charge of all the books, tracts, maps, manuscripts, and other property of the Society appropriate to a library, and shall make and keep exact and perfect catalogues of each and all of them, doing whatever may be in his power, at all times, to preserve and increase the Collections under his care."

At all events, it is plain that the person who should be employed to prepare a catalogue of the Library at the present moment would be able, without interference with his work, "to keep the Library open" during the year or two which such a labor would inevitably occupy.

Upon these considerations, your Committee are of opinion that the one thing essential to the interests of the Society is the employment of a Librarian or Assistant Librarian whose whole time shall be devoted to the duties of the office, as laid down in the By-Laws, who shall keep the Library always open and accessible, and who shall proceed at once to prepare a perfect and systematic catalogue of every thing which it contains, and who shall be paid accordingly.

And for this object the Committee need hardly say that money is needed to a much larger amount than our Treasury under present circumstances can supply. An enlargement of the pecuniary resources of the Society—a permanent enlargement, if possible, but, at any rate, a temporary one—is therefore indispensable.

In considering how this indispensable object is to be at-

tained, the Committee are led to suggest whether an increase of the number of our members might not be expedient. Sixty members from the whole Commonwealth seem hardly enough, at the present day, to fulfil the purposes of the Society, even in other than mere pecuniary relations; and twice that number would be hardly as many, in proportion to our population and to our field of duty, as the original number of the Society in 1794. One hundred and one members, or one hundred members, whichever is the true old Pilgrim "Mayflower" number, might perhaps have an agreeable historical association. Or, without altering the number, a change in the charter might be effected, by which the term "Resident Members" should be limited to Boston, or its immediate vicinity, and no limit be assigned to members from other and more remote parts of the Commonwealth. With such an enlargement of the number of members, might go along a small increase of the annual assessment, say from three dollars to five dollars; or, perhaps, some scale of assessment might be concerted by which those who are able and willing should be assessed, or should assess themselves, at even a larger rate annually.

These suggestions, however, are hardly made with a view to meet the immediate exigency. They could not be carried out without the intervention of the Legislature, — so far, certainly, as they relate to an increase of the number of members; and they all require grave and deliberate consideration by the Society.

For the present, then, your Committee believe that we must look for the object under consideration to the voluntary subscriptions of those interested in the welfare of the Society; and they rejoice in the assurances which have already been given that such an appeal will not be made in vain.

Your Committee are of opinion, from the best inquiry, that a trustworthy and competent person can be procured to act as Assistant Librarian, with the double duty of keeping the Library open, agreeably to the By-Laws, and of making a

perfect and systematic catalogue of the Library, at a salary of not exceeding six hundred dollars per annum ; and they believe that the entire completion of the catalogue may be relied on within a period not exceeding two years.

If the sum, therefore, of six hundred dollars per annum for two successive years can now be secured, the catalogue will be completed, and the question of keeping open the Library disposed of satisfactorily for that period of time.

In the mean while, the Committee sincerely trust that some measures may be devised for placing the Society permanently in a better position to fulfil the expectations which were authorized, and the great duties which were assumed, in its foundation.

The Massachusetts Historical Society is the oldest Historical Society in the country. Sixty years have now elapsed since its Act of Incorporation was passed by the Legislature. During this period it has made precious contributions to the history of the State and country in its printed Collections. Its publications, both in number and value, far exceed those of any other kindred association. But it has too long been crippled by the want of adequate funds, and other and younger societies in other States have gone far beyond it in the provision which they have made for accomplishing their common objects.

The want of safe and spacious accommodation for their archives, and of a neat and systematic arrangement of their Library and Cabinet, and of a more inviting accommodation for their meetings and their pursuits, has long been experienced. Could these objects be accomplished, it is believed that a greater interest in the Society would be created in the community at large, and that valuable contributions to its Library and its Cabinet and its portraits might be expected from those who now shrink from trusting their treasures where there is so little confidence that they will be cared for and turned to account, and made accessible to those interested in examining them.

The Committee hope that measures may be matured at no distant day, by which the portraits already collected in our ante-room may be cleaned, repaired, and put in such order, and so permanently marked, that there may be no danger hereafter of mistake or of decay, and that an inducement may be held out to those having old historical portraits to add them to our gallery. For the present, however, the Committee confine themselves to the objects distinctly designated in the votes of the June and August meetings; and, for the accomplishment of these objects, they submit the following resolution:—

*Resolved*, That the Librarian be authorized and directed to employ an assistant, to be approved by the Standing Committee, to keep the Library open according to the By-Laws of the Society, and to proceed at once to the preparation of a complete and systematic catalogue of the Library, Cabinet, and pictures, at a salary not exceeding six hundred dollars per annum, provided that a subscription be obtained for defraying this salary for the term of two years.

For the Committee,

ROBERT C. WINTHROP.

BOSTON, 12 Oct., 1854.

Whereupon,

*Voted*, To accept the report, and adopt the resolution submitted by the Committee.\*

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\* The Standing Committee of the previous year, as we have already seen (on p. 538), made a special report at the September meeting, 1853, on the subject of keeping the Library open, and of preparing a catalogue of the books in it; and they reported an engagement made with Mr. James I. Wood for this purpose. Mr. Wood's services, however, were continued only from August, 1853, to February, 1854. The importance of more strenuous efforts to secure abler and more continuous service for the Society in these respects was deeply felt at this time, and the report of Mr. Winthrop, who was Chairman of the Standing Committee that year, was a true expression of the feeling of the members.

On the authority of the above resolution, which was adopted by the Society, — the condition of the subscription named in it having been fulfilled, — the Standing Committee engaged the services of Dr. John Appleton as Assistant Librarian who entered upon his duties on the 4th of December of this year, at a

No communications were received from the members of the Third Section.

Dr. SHURTLEFF communicated a request from Mr. Samuel Andrews, of the Boston Custom-House, that Mr. F. A. Durivage may be permitted to make a copy of the Society's portrait of General Lincoln, the first Collector of Customs in Boston under the Constitution, such copy to be placed in the Custom-House. Whereupon,

*Voted*, That the request be granted at the rooms of the Society, and that free access to the rooms be accorded to Mr. Durivage for that purpose.

Mr. ELLIS, from the Publishing Committee, asked for an expression of opinion in relation to publishing in the next volume of the Society's Collections Rev. Mr. Hunter's "Founders of New Plymouth," the enlarged work, edition of 1854.

No vote was taken upon the subject, but opinions, as informally expressed, were adverse to this publication in the next volume.

Present — The President, Appleton, Blagden, Brigham, Davis, Deane, Ellis, Felt, R. Frothingham, Jr., Hoar,

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salary of \$500 per annum. Dr. Appleton's period of service in the Library happily was not limited to the time named in the resolution, as he continued to fill the office to which he was now appointed for fourteen years, or till December, 1868, a few weeks before his death, his salary having been from time to time increased. His valuable labors in preparing the catalogue of books and manuscripts, and his services to the Society in other ways, have been commemorated in our Proceedings. The increasing duties of the Library, soon after Dr. Appleton's appointment, occasioned partly by a growing interest felt in its objects by the members and by the community at large, soon made it necessary to employ additional assistance in its administration, and, in the summer of 1855, Mr. George Arnold was engaged as janitor and general assistant, and he continued in the Society's service for more than twenty years. — *Eds.*

Jenks, Livermore, Paige, Shattuck, Shurtleff, Sibley, Webb, White, Willard, Winthrop, and Worcester.

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MONTHLY MEETING.

Thursday, Nov. 9, 1854, 12 M. The Society held their stated meeting, — the President in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read.

The Librarian communicated donations from the Pennsylvania Historical Society, the Congress of the United States, and from Messrs. Budington, Shattuck, and Shurtleff, of this Society.

The President read a communication from the Rev. John S. Barry, of West Scituate, in which he states that “for more than two years past he has been engaged in the preparation of a History of Massachusetts,” and requests permission to consult the Society’s manuscript collections, and make extracts from the same for the purposes of his work; and, thereupon, it was

*Voted*, That leave be granted to Mr. Barry, under the Society’s Rules.

The President communicated a letter from the Rev. Mr. Budington, in which he states that having removed to the city of Philadelphia, he is “under the necessity of resigning his membership in the Society.”\*

Mr. PAIGE requested leave to borrow from the Library the volumes of the “Massachusetts Spy,” from its first publication down to the year 1815, taking out not exceeding three volumes at a time.

*Voted*, To grant leave.

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\* See p. 609, note. — Eds.

Mr. WINTHROP, from the Committee on the subject of keeping the Library open and making provision for a new Catalogue, reported that a subscription had been opened, and that the Committee had already obtained five hundred dollars a year for two years, with some surplus for incidental expenses.

Mr. LUNT, the Corresponding Secretary, communicated a letter from Mr. J. Bell Pollock, dated "College Hall, Cincinnati, Aug. 17, 1854," offering to sell to the Society certain letters written by persons connected with the civil and military history of the United States, at prices varying from three to fifteen dollars per letter.\*

*Voted*, To lay this letter upon the table, and that Mr. Secretary be directed to write to Mr. Pollock, acknowledging the receipt of the letter.

Mr. HILLARD, from the Committee to whom was referred at the last July meeting the letter from Professor Henry, of the Smithsonian Institution, read a report, concluding with a recommendation that the Society send its printed volumes of Collections to the Smithsonian Institution, beginning with the first volume of the third series.

After some discussion, on motion,

*Voted*, That the report be recommitted, striking out the recommendation of the Committee, and to insert instead thereof a recommendation that the Society transmit the entire series of its Collections to the Smithsonian Institution.

Mr. BRIGHAM, of the First Section, made some remarks in relation to the true date of the Colonial

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\* These letters, fifteen in number, written by different public men, were all addressed to General John Sullivan. — Eds.



Ordinance giving to riparian proprietors right to flats "where the sea doth not ebb above a hundred rods."

Mr. AMES read a letter from the Hon. Mr. Justice Aylwin, of the Court of Queen's Bench, Canada, in reply to the circular of this Society, concerning the Province Laws, &c. And, thereupon,

*Voted*, That Mr. Ames be a committee to communicate with the Hon. Mr. Justice Aylwin upon the subject of the copy of the Massachusetts Laws in the Advocates' Library at Quebec, certified under the Province seal and the signature of Governor Bernard; and of Mr. Justice Aylwin's copy of the Temporary Laws of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay, edition of 1755, pages 561; and such other matter connected with the subject of the Province Laws and Journal of the House of Representatives; and also tender to Mr. Justice Aylwin the cordial thanks of the Society for his kind service.

The Standing Committee nominated the Rev. William Newell, D.D., of Cambridge, for Resident Member, *vice* Rev. Mr. Budington, removed from the Commonwealth, and Hon. Lorenzo Sabine, of Framingham, for Resident Member, *vice* Rev. William Barry, removed from the Commonwealth.

A letter having been received from the Hon. Luther Bradish and others, a Committee of the New York Historical Society, inviting attendance at the celebration of the semi-centennial anniversary of the Society, on the 20th of November instant, in the City of New York,

*Voted*, To accept the invitation, and that the Massachusetts Historical Society be represented by five delegates on the occasion.

The following gentlemen were chosen delegates: viz., Rev. George E. Ellis, Hon. Robert C. Winthrop, Hon. Edward Everett, Hon. Charles Francis Adams,

and Rev. Samuel K. Lothrop, D.D., and were authorized to fill vacancies, should any occur in the delegation.

The President nominated William S. Southgate, Esq., of Scarborough, in the State of Maine, for Corresponding Member.

Present — The President, Ames, Blagden, Brigham, Davis, Deane, Ellis, Felt, N. L. Frothingham, R. Frothingham, Jr., Hillard, Jenks, Lamson, Lothrop, Lunt, Minot, Paige, Robbins, Sears, Shurtleff, Sibley, Webb, Wheatland, Willard, and Winthrop.

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#### MONTHLY MEETING.

Thursday, Dec. 14, 1854, 12 M. The Society held their stated meeting, — the President in the chair.

In the absence of the Recording Secretary, NATHANIEL B. SHURTLEFF was chosen Secretary *pro tem*.

The record of the last meeting was read.

The Librarian communicated donations from the United States Treasury Department, and from Messrs. Sibley, Webb, and Winthrop, of the Society.

Rev. WILLIAM NEWELL, D.D., of Cambridge, was elected Resident Member, in place of Rev. Mr. Budington, removed from the Commonwealth; and Hon. LORENZO SABINE, of Framingham, in place of Rev. Mr. Barry, removed from the Commonwealth, — Messrs. WORCESTER and WEBB, Scrutinizing Committee.

Mr. WINTHROP called the attention of the Society to a collection of medals relating to events in American

history, which he exhibited, and which are offered for sale by Mr. Wyatt.

WILLIAM S. SOUTHGATE, Esq., of Scarborough, in the State of Maine, was elected Corresponding Member, — Messrs. WORCESTER and WEBB, Scrutinizing Committee.

The Treasurer made the following report, viz. : —

BOSTON, Dec. 14, 1854.

The undersigned submits the following report; that, on the 4th instant, he received the following communication from the Trustees acting under the will of the late Hon. Samuel Appleton, viz. : —

“BOSTON, Nov. 18, 1854.

“DEAR SIR, — As Trustees under the will of the late Samuel Appleton, and in accordance with what we believe to have been his wish, we have transferred to the Massachusetts Historical Society the following stocks, amounting, by the appraisement of his estate, as nearly as may be, to the sum of ten thousand dollars: viz., Two shares in the Amoskeag Manufacturing Company; two shares in the Stark Mills; one share in the Merrimack Manufacturing Company; one share in the Appleton Manufacturing Company; one share in the Hamilton Manufacturing Company; one share in the Massachusetts Cotton Mills; one share in the Suffolk Manufacturing Company; and one share in the Manchester Print Works.

“This donation is made in trust to constitute a fund, the income of which shall be applied to the procuring, preservation, preparation, and publication of historical papers.

“N. APPLETON,  
WILLIAM APPLETON, } *Trustees.*  
N. I. BOWDITCH,

“TO RICHARD FROTHINGHAM, Jr.,

*Treasurer of the Massachusetts Historical Society.”*

And the undersigned further reports that he has received from the Trustees the certificates of the above-named stocks, for which he has given a receipt, as Treasurer of the Society.

RICHARD FROTHINGHAM, Jr.,  
*Treasurer of Massachusetts Historical Society.*

And, thereupon,

*Voted*, To refer this subject to Messrs. Adams, Ticknor, and Minot.

Mr. HILLARD, from the Committee on the letter of Professor Henry, of the Smithsonian Institution, the report of which Committee was recommitted at the last meeting, made the following report, viz. : —

The Committee to whom the letter of the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, dated June 28, 1854, was referred beg leave to submit the following report, viz. : —

The Committee, at the last meeting of the Society, held Nov. 9, made a report, ending with a recommendation that the Society transmit to the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution a copy of the volumes of our Collections, beginning with the third series. After some discussion, the report was recommitted, with instructions to report a resolution to transmit to the Secretary a complete copy of the Collections from the beginning. Such a resolution is hereto appended; and, in reporting this, the duty of the Committee seems to be discharged.

G. S. HILLARD,  
*For the Committee.*

Boston, Dec. 14, 1854.

*Resolved*, That a complete set of the Collections of the Society be transmitted to the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, for the Library thereof.

Mr. LIVERMORE, one of the Committee, made a minority report in favor of adhering to the original recommendation of the Committee, but did not place the same on file.

*Voted*, To accept the report of the Committee this day made.

Dr. WEBB read a note from George Brinley, Jr., Esq.,

of Hartford, offering to assist the Society in completing certain Massachusetts documents.

*Voted*, To refer this note to Mr. Ames, to report thereupon.

No communications were received from the members of the Second Section.

Present — The President, Adams, Ames, Appleton, Brigham, Davis, Deane, Ellis, Felt, Francis, N. L. Frothingham, R. Frothingham, Jr., Hillard, Hoar, Jenks, Livermore, Lunt, Minot, Paige, Robbins, Shaw, Shurtleff, Sibley, Ticknor, Webb, White, Winthrop, and Worcester.

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#### MONTHLY MEETING, JANUARY, 1855.

Thursday, Jan. 11, 1855, 12 M. The Society held their stated meeting, — the President in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read.

The Librarian communicated donations from Dr. John C. Warren, Dr. J. V. C. Smith, the Trustees of the New York Library, the Wisconsin Historical Society, the American Antiquarian Society, the Smithsonian Institution, Hon. William Appleton, and from Messrs. Deane, Sibley, Webb, and Winthrop, of this Society.

The Corresponding Secretary read letters of acceptance from Rev. Dr. Newell and Hon. Lorenzo Sabine.

Mr. ELLIS, from the Publishing Committee, announced the publication of Vol. II., fourth series, and bore especial testimony to the labors of Mr. Deane in the preparation of materials for the volume.

Mr. ADAMS, from the Committee on the Appleton